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*Many Happy Returns*

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**JOHN E. HALL.**

Charter member and vice-captain of the Mississauga Golf Club, who to-day celebrates his 81st birthday. There will be a number of presentations to him during the day which will be concluded by a dinner in the

evening. The above picture was taken on Tuesday as Mr. Hall sat in his favorite spot, beside the eighteenth green. Before becoming a golf enthusiast Mr. Hall was a prominent cricket player and executive.

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Mail + Enquirer 24 May 1934

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## Mississauga Honors Charter Member John E. Hall, on His 81st Birthday

**Veteran Cricketer and Golfer Will  
Celebrate Occasion by Playing  
in Founders' Competition.**

**TORONTO RESIDENT 56 YEARS**

**Recalls Early Days of Cricket in  
Toronto as Well as Organization  
of Lambton and Mississauga.**

By C. W. MacQUEEN.

Although the caddies at the Mississauga Club are a well trained lot and keep well in the rear of the professional's shop until called to the first tee by the caddy master there will be a concerted rush to the first tee by the bag-toters some time this morning. This rush, onslaught, breach of discipline or what have you, will occur when John E. Hall and S. J. Moore prepare to start off their first 18-hole round of the Founders' trophy.

The cause of the movement is that Mr. Hall, vice-captain of the club, is to-day celebrating his 81st birthday and the caddies have made arrangements to be the first of the club members and employees to do honor to the veteran. Their presentation will be the first of a number of events at Mississauga during the day which will culminate in a dinner and presentation to him in the evening on the part of the members.

Mr. Hall is closely connected with Mississauga which was organized in 1906. He is the only one of the four men who discovered the site of the club, located on an old Indian camping ground on the Credit River, in September, 1905, and who is now a member of the club. He was a charter member of the club and since its inception has been one of the most active members. He was the first honorary secretary and has also been a director. He resides within a half mile of the course and despite his age he plays regularly four times a week, 18 holes every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday when the weather does not prevent a round. When not out on a round he is generally at the first tee or in the near vicinity. For years he has been vice-captain and for the last ten years has been a honorary member of the club, a mark of appreciation to him on his 70th birthday.

**Once Ridiculed Golf.**

Mr. Hall, known to countless golfers as Johnnie, whether this is an endearing lengthening of his first name or a combination of his name and second initial is not certain, but is probably the former, has not always been a golfer. Like his old friend and junior, George S. Lyon, he was a cricketer and had his introduction to golf at the old Rosedale grounds, where he saw some red-coated men knocking a small ball around with sticks on the Rosedale course. He made some disparaging remarks about so-called he-men being content with such a trivial form of exercise, and the statement was carried to some of the golfers, who included some friends of Mr. Hall. They at once came back with a challenge to him and he accepted it. A ball was teed up on a short hole and after accepting all bets that he would not hit it the first time he drove the green and so became an addict of golf. He did not desert cricket entirely, but golf ranked first thereafter.

In cricket, Mr. Hall occupied a prominent place for years, and after he retirement from active play he has kept in touch with the game and is a spectator at all the important matches played in the city. Some years ago, along with R. O. McCulloch of Galt, he published a book "Sixty Years of Canadian Cricket," but unfortunately this publication is now off the press and copies are comparatively few.

Came to Toronto in 1878.

He was born in Warrington, Lancashire, England, on May 24th, 1854, during the progress of the Crimean war, and came to Toronto direct from England in 1878, which makes him a continuous resident of this city for 56 years. He was a member of both the Parkdale and Toronto Cricket Clubs and when persuaded can relate many interesting stories of the olden days.

One that he tells is how the Parkdale Club improved its financial position during the season of 1879. They rented the field on the south side of King Street, between Jamieson and Close, from the owner, Mr. Gooch, father of Fred Gooch, for \$30. The club then elected Mr. Gooch honorary president and he made a donation of \$30. Later in the season the club sold the grass of the field for another \$30.

He chuckles when he tells the story of the time he hit George S. Lyon for a six. Mr. Lyon says that this hit was the longest ever made off his bowling. There were no boundaries and after Mr. Hall and his partner had run six runs, and the ball still travelling, Mr. Lyon called "lost ball."

Another feat that he is proud to recall is the time that he and D. L. McCarthy made over 100 for a first wicket partnership, and another was when he lost his wicket so that W. J. Fleury could get his century. The pair were partners in a match played where old McMaster University was afterwards located, and Fleury had 92 and Hall 24 when the latter hit one to square leg. Mr. Fleury started to run and when told to go back by Mr.

Hall replied that he could. Mr. Hall then legged it for the other end but just after passing his partner was dismissed by the prompt throw back. Mr. Fleury then went on to get 108. This sacrifice on the part of Mr. Hall is an example of numerous incidents which have endeared him to thousands who know him.

**Saves Follow On.**

Among the happenings of years ago one that makes him chuckle every time he speaks of it is the occasion when he went in last for the Toronto club against Peterboro. The locals were in a bad way as they needed two runs to escape a follow on. Mr. Hall hit the first ball over the clubhouse for a six and while his team escaped the disgrace of having to take another turn at the bat his team-mates were none too pleased at having to spend the rest of the day in the field.

He was a steady bat. His best score was a 76 made against a picked team in a match at the Exhibition Grounds, in which Parkdale made but 117 runs. But as a bowler he was one of the leaders of his day. One year, while playing for both Toronto and Parkdale, he took 111 wickets at an average of 3.87 each and during the same season he took seven for ten runs, playing for Parkdale against Toronto.

He dates his active connection with golf from the time that the Lambton Club was organized in 1902, having been a charter member of that club.

Mr. Hall holds something of a record at Mississauga. Some years ago when playing with H. Hermance and the Knox brothers, Alex and Stanley, he used up but 19 putts on an 18-hole round, missing a three-footer on the 17th. It was also in company of these three players that he made his lowest score, a 43-34-77.

Each year he receives many letters of congratulations from friends all over the world, his messages this year including some from the Old Country and Australia as well as many points in Canada and the United States. Among those received was a poem written by W. Hastings Webbing of Brantford, the poet laureate of Canadian golf:

Congratulations, John E. Hall.  
A noble Briton, great but small.  
True sportsman who, for many a year,  
Has followed through a fine career.  
A fine career, a splendid score.  
But 'ere your innings yet is o'er.  
We're hoping that we yet may see  
You reach and pass your century.

For long I've known your smile serene,  
Your jovial laugh and kindly mien,  
In all a truly sporting soul  
On crease, or course or 19th hole  
Nor have you changed in all the time  
Your genial friendship has been mine  
You stand to-day, as e'er to me  
A mighty pleasant memory.

So fill your glasses to the brim  
And drink to John, good luck to him!  
Long may he live and still maintain  
His prestige at the ancient game.  
And may he long be spared to be  
A link with sporting history—  
So here's your health, dear doughty  
John.

Good luck, good health—ad carry on.

**Golf Patriarch**

**JOHN E. HALL**, vice captain charter member and first secretary of the Mississauga Golf Club, who celebrated his 80th birthday yesterday with a round of golf. Numerous presentations were made, including that of a putter by the caddies. Mr. Hall was caught by The Telegram camera during his round. He is holding the presentation club. S. J. Moore, co-founder of the club and the first vice-president to be elected, partnered Mr. Hall in a four-ball foursome which also included E. S. Munroe and S. J. Moore, Jr.



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INTERVIEW WITH MR. JOHN E. HALL, Mississauga Rd., Port  
Credit. 20th June, 1934. Tioga.

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*Miss*

I was Secretary of the Canadian Cricket Association for 20 years. That would be about 40 years ago. I went to California to spend the winter and came back and they couldn't get a Secretary so I was made secretary again.

They had some items in the Mail & Empire on the 24th of May when I was 80 years old. They had my picture in the paper and an item on Cricket.

I was treasurer of the Toronto Cricket Club and of the Parkdale Club, and I played for Parkdale against Toronto and took 7 wickets against the Toronto Club. I played for Toronto too at times.

One day Dice Saunders said to me "John, I am almost crazy. Here we are, a couple of young lawyer students and we owe \$1400, and the whole bunch of us put together isn't worth that much." So I said "I bet a dollar that I can raise that \$1400 for you in two weeks." I told him that there were quite a few gentlemen who were former members of the Toronto Club when it was a Company not incorporated, and I said if they were asked to join the Club that I bet not one of them would refuse and so we did and the 50 men all joined and became members of the Toronto Cricket Club. The grounds were, sometimes at Varsity and sometimes at McMaster University and now they are at Armour Heights. I was living in Toronto at this time. I voted in Peel in 1806, and when I started this Club (Mississauga)

Interview with Mr. Hohn E. Hall, Mississauga Rd., Port  
Credit, 20th June, 1934. cont'd. Tioega.

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I said the land on this road must increase in value. I paid for 20 acres at \$125 an acre and settled down. I sold half to a friend of mine so that I would have a neighbour, and sold it for just what I paid for it, to Tom Allen. Tom Allen later sold it to Alex Knox. Tom was a member of the Mississauga Golf Club. Alex Knox is a son of the Knox at King & Yonge Streets.

I still have 10 acres of land<sup>and</sup>/I was offered \$40,000 for the place. The contract for my house was \$2500 but it keeps costing me a little more each year. I spent the whole summer of 1917 in England.

My son, George Osborne Hall, was with Capt. Barker's Club, in the Infantry. He went from here with the 95th and then he was transferred and went over with the First Canadian Infantry. Col. Barker had refused my son four times to revert from the rank of Captain to Lieutenant, and so George went to him one day and asked him again, and he told Col. Barker that this was his last time to ask him and he said if he didn't let him go this time there was only one thing left for him to do. And the Captain said "What is that, George, my boy?" And George said, "I'll resign my rank and go as a Private." So the Captain let him take the rank of Lieutenant and go over and after he was there about six months

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he was sent a cheque for the extra pay he should have been getting and was listed as a Lieutenant. (Get a picture of this boy.)

This son was president of the Literary Society and Captain of the Cadets, and Captain of the Rugby Team at Varsity. J. S. Smith was at the University then. He received his LL.B.

The Mississauga Club is a beautiful Club and financially we are fine. A notice of no more lady members was issued last week. We have to cut them out as we have no room for any more. The two Cotton brothers, professionals in sport, said that the Mississauga Golf Course is the most beautiful course they have ever played on.

I have a daughter in Toronto, married to a son of Tom Gibson. His name is G. Alex. L. Gibson (a son of T. W. Gibson) and I think it is Chadley Blvd., <sup>they</sup> ~~xxx~~ live on.

I suggested we give a cricket bat to the boy that made the highest score on the course, so I wrote a letter to Sharpe on Yonge Street and instructed him to pick out a good bat. I gave Sharpe a cheque for \$25.60 and he picked out two good bats. The game was played on the 24th of May and a boy named Clark from Upper Canada College won one of the bats at the Mississauga

Interview with Mr. John E. Hall, Mississauga Rd., Port  
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and I forget who won the other.

*Golf*

There never was any cricket in Peel until this course started. One time I was asked what I thought of golf and cricket and which I liked the best. "Well", I said, "I play golf but I love cricket." I played cricket in England. I went to the Bottloor (?) Grammar School, supposed to be a free school but was everything but that. I learned to play cricket in England and I came back to Canada when I was 24. We had a club at Lambton called the Highlands Club. We only had the property leased and when we got it all sodded nicely they sold it and we had to find some place else. So one Sunday on the 9th of September, 1905, John Eyer, a Lumber merchant; Chas. Pringle, still a member of the Lambton Club; Major H. B. Richey, a member of the Lakeview but not of the Mississauga club, and myself went out to look for a new course. We came to where the Mississauga Golf course is now and there were some apple trees along the road. So I said "Let's sit down and refresh our thirst." So we ate some apples and I said "I think I'll take a walk over the hill and see what it is like," and I took a walk up to the top of the hill and when I looked at it I went back and called the boys to come and look. I said "I think I have found the Promised Land." So they came up and I drove a ball over the hillside and said "We'll leave it there to grow." And so that was where we decided to build our course.



Interview with Mr. John E. Hall, Mississauga Rd., Port  
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That same day we had gone as far as Cooksville and we went into the Hotel to have something to eat. We had some old carpet balls in our pockets and we took them out and started to play and the landlady came out and was almost going to throw us out. She said "What do you mean by playing that on Sunday?" So we didn't play any more in there. We went on around to Erindale and it was on our way from Erindale that we discovered this place where the Mississauga Golf Course is now. We were driving around in one of them old Gladstone rigs.

We got the land from <sup>the</sup> Capreol family. It had been divided into lots all along there for the Georgian Bay Canal, and we got it for \$1200. We had a final meeting and I was made Secretary of the Club. Mr. Moore the Provisional Chairman, gave me a cheque for \$750 and I got another cheque from Jim & Harry Ryrle for another \$750. We used the old house for a club and the barn as a locker. We started and each gentleman member bought shares at \$75 a share and the ladies bought shares at \$25 each and we had a membership fee of \$40. for men and \$10 for ladies. The membership at one time was over 800 and now it has 700 or more. The extra 40 acres of land across the road was paid for in bonds and cost \$20,000. We started with a 9 hole course and eventually got an 18 hole course and later we added 13 or 14 holes across the river. The 14th hole was about 185 yards across the river. Last winter was the first time in 28 years that I didn't

Interview with Mr. John E. Hall, Mississauga Rd., Port  
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Have a game of golf. We used to play every Sunday.

The professionals that came for the Canadian Open Championship from England, Germany, U.S., B.C., and France and all over said that it was the most beautiful course they had ever played on. Sir Wm. Mulock came out here and I said to him "Have you been around to the other side of the Clubhouse" and he said he hadn't. So I took him around and showed him the other side, and he said "he didn't know there was so beautiful a place so close to Toronto."

I was president of the Port Credit Bowling Club for the first seven years.

Alf Briggs was very fond of cricket.

Chas. Elliott, President of a Law Society, lived here and he was always after me to join the Church of England and subscribe to it. So I said I would send him a cheque twice a year but that was to cover everything. I didn't want him bothering me all the time so I send him two cheques a year.

Mr. Hall lives on the Mississauga Road, off the Lake Shore Road, turning north.

Jack Bickel, Mr. Langmuir and Alec Morrison were great golfers.

Interview with Mr. John E. Hall, Mississauga Rd., Port  
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George Kelley sold his property to Norman Pierce,  
editor of the Northern Mining Company, for \$2000 an acre.

Mr. Hall thinks the Mississauga Golf Club, one of  
the biggest institutions in Peel.

The Adamsons lived to the east of the Mississauga  
Club.

Ask Mr. Carson what became of the old relics dug  
up on the Mississauga Grounds. Mr. McLeod thinks they  
gave them to the Ontario Museum.

Mr. John E. Hall and Thomas Thauburn gave a trophy  
to be played for every year for the Brampton Curling  
Club and the Parkdale Club. Parkdale merged into High  
Park and they played Brampton every winter. They played  
for the winner either in Brampton or Parkdale. I played  
with the Parkdale Club  
cricket/in Brampton 50 years ago with John Pexton against  
the Brampton Team. John Chambers was President. He was  
father of the President of the Parks Commission and used  
to make the best Shandigaff. He had a big tub and he  
put in several quarts of ale, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  of it was ginger  
beer and he put mint in it, and really it was wonderful.  
You could drink that all day long and it would not affect  
you.

(Mr. Bull states that a member of the Club told him  
that it cost him \$4,000 to come into the Club.)



Interview with Mr. John E. Hall, Mississauga Rd., Port  
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The clubhouse has cost over \$100,000

I was born on the 24th of May, 1854.

Painted on the bottom of a picture is the following:-  
"Governor Simcoe and his wife, landing at the Mississauga  
Indian Village in 1793."

George J. McLeod made a hole in one at Brampton and  
one at the Mississauga.

R. W. McCulla compiled "The 60 years of Canadian  
Cricket." There is a chapter on cricket in the History  
of Upper Canada College, written by one of the Masters.  
I supplied them with the names for the pictures in "The  
60 Years of Canadian Cricket. All the Upper Canada  
Cricket Matches are in it."

My daughter, Marjorie, won 2 Edward Blake scholar-  
ships and 2 more scholarships and 2 seconds when she  
was going to school.

Inscription of a picture:

"Printed for competition by T. D. Richardson, Esq.,  
and F. C. White. Won by J. P. Bickell and donated to  
the Club, July, 1928. Painting by J. W. Beatty."

Interview with Mr. John Hall.

3rd July, 1934.

Born - Warrington, Lancashire, England.

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Age - 80 yrs.

Came to Canada at the age of 24 yrs. (1878)

In Peel 28 yrs.

1906 - Moved out to Mississauga. Bought land in 1906,  
Living on it in July.

Lived in Parkdale played Cricket there. Rented the  
field corner King and Close for \$30.00, 1880. Practically  
the formation of Parkdale Club.

Mr. Black's brother was one organizer of the Parkdale  
Club. Secretary Treasurer for about ten years.

Mr. Black and Mr. Hall joined about 1881-2.

Mr. Hall played with Parkdale Club about 16 years.

He was Secretary of Canadian Cricket Association for over  
twenty years. <sup>Only</sup> Oldest Secretary of Club. He ~~went~~ went  
to California thinking he'd die, but doctor said he was  
alright, so he returned to find that this Association  
had petered out. He has no records of the books.

~~1883-1884~~ Previous to this he had been Secretary of the Ontario  
(1883) Association. / The Ontario Association heard that a new  
Association was to be formed, so they changed their  
name to the Canadian Cricket Association, <sup>in late 80's.</sup> Mr. Hall  
was known as the "Daddy" of the Association. This  
Association practically controlled Cricket in the Dominion.

Interview with Mr. Hall -

It was formed to ~~encourage~~ encourage and develop the game and to provide and arrange Dominion-wide competition. Association in charge of International games, he thinks, in Toronto or Philadelphia. Played up on Jarvis on old Lacrosse greens. Back of varsity, nearly always in this place.

Forty years ago, 1894, left for California, Association petered out.

Played from 1880 into middle 90's.

1892 - Toronto played Brooklyn.

Parkdale team vs. Toronto-Rosedale teams combined, put them out 11 runs.

Toronto team was the foremost team. Also played with this team.

Parkdale Club Toured - Buffalo, Hamilton, Paris, Galt, Clinton, Brantford,

Toronto played London, Montreal, Ottawa, Maritimes.

111 wickets one year - 3.87 runs per wicket.

Very few took 100 wickets a season.

Played at Brampton many times.

Played Golf 1902 with Lambton Club. Highlands original Mississauga. Chartered member at Lambton. <sup>t</sup> Until 1905 went to look for Golf course. Sept. 1905 - discovered Mississauga. got option. 1906 - thinks they bought it

outright. Cotton says it is the most beautiful course he every played (English Champion).

Active officer of Golf Club ever since. Secretary for first two years. Executive for 3 or four years, Director. Been vice-captain for 11 years.

President of Port Credit Bowling Club for 7 years. First President.

Bowling Club at Port Credit, 1905. Played matches against Lorne Park and Port Credit, 1905. Organized 1913.

Mr. Black plays for Lorne Park Bowling Club.

A. W. Briggs, Federal Building, - information about Lorne Park.- Father, Rev. Dr. Briggs, Started about ~~1878~~ 1878.

Cup given by Mr. Hall to be played for every year, and by Mr. T. Thauburn.

Bowled with the Port Credit Club.

200 entries - 1913 - Scotch Doubles - Mr. Black and Mr. Stouffville, in finals.

Wilson, Munroe - 18-20 Duncan Street - re Lakeshore Bowling League.

Munroe - Port Credit.

Walter Gammil - Centre Road, Cooksville.

Club Doubles. Won seven games with son - 1915.



Active Bowler for 10 or 12 years in Port Credit - 1920.  
Still interested.

Curling - Parkdale Club. Secretary of the Club. Not  
certain whether it was called the Parkdale Boating Club  
OR the Parkdale Canoe Club then. Early 90's. Ran  
boathouse  
about a year or so and/was washed away.

Secretary Curling Club, life Member, has played in some  
shops belonging to C.P.R. on Dufferin Street. Moses  
Hunter was annoyed and formed a Company, and sold out  
this  
~~the~~ club. Played for 15 or 20 years. Won championship  
of Parkdale curling club.

Curled about 5 years on Dufferin Street in C.P.R. workshop  
then built clubhouse on acorn avenue about 1895.

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Cricket Match in California, Riverside, Anglican Church.  
Game suggested by Clergyman. Asked to bowl. Sides were  
Clergyman  
chosen, but it was just a pickup game. /Played in England.  
Clergyman  
/Only lasted one Bowl.

John E. Hall, who has resided on the Mississauga Road, north of Port Credit, for the past twenty-eight years, has been one of the outstanding figures in the modern sports life of, not only the County of Peel, but of the province of Ontario as well. He was active both as a player and official in cricket, lawn-bowling, golf and curling, and has several scrap-books which vividly portray the extent of his ~~addiction~~ addiction to these types of recreation.

He joined the Parkdale Cricket Club in 1881 and played for that team for several years, in local games and in tours throughout the province. Later he joined the Toronto Cricket Club Club, and took part in games for both teams. He was a batter and a bowler of more than ordinary ability. His best scoring contribution was a 76, out of a team total of 117 against a picked team. During one season he compiled the best record

of any Toronto bowler, taking 111 wickets for an average of 3.87 per wicket. In the same summer while playing for Parkdale Club against the Toronto team he dismissed 7 batsmen for 10 runs.

For the last twenty years of the past century he was Secretary of the Canadian Cricket Association (known as the Ontario Cricket Association until the late eighties.) This body organized to promote the game practically controlled cricket in the Dominion and supervised the international matches, in most of which he was an official.

Mr. Hall joined the Parkdale Curling Club about 1890 and played with them for about fifteen years, being Secretary for about half of that time, and latterly a life member. On one occasion he won the club championship. He and Mr. Thomas Thauburn donated a trophy for competition between the Parkdale and Brampton clubs.



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which was competed for annually until the former club disbanded.

This veteran sportsman joined the Highlands Golf Club in 1902, played on their course at Lambton until they were forced to vacate. He was one of the committee which discovered the present site of the Missisauga in 1905 and was probably the most active in the organization of the new club, which he has seen grow into one of the foremost on the continent. Being the first Secretary, Honourary Life Member and Vice-Captain for the past eleven years, has made him one of the most popular members.

Mr. Hall started his lawn bowling career at Port Credit about 1907, their games being taking place on the greens at Lorne Park for the next two years. About 1909 the ~~XXXXXXXX~~ site for the present greens was acquired, and in 1913 the Port Credit

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Bowling Club was organized. He was elected President, a position he held for seven years. For almost a score of years he was one of the leading bowlers of the club and skipped innumerable winning rinks in tournaments and in the Lakeshore Bowling League.

THEIR NAME LIVETH A Memoir of The Boys of Parkdale Collegiate Institute Who Gave Their Lives in The Great War.

(This man came from Port Credit)

GEORGE OSBORNE HALL, son of John E. and Mary Little Hall, joined the 74th Battalion as a Lieutenant in 1915, but was transferred to the 95th and promoted to the rank of Captain. He went overseas in May, 1916, and reverted to Lieutenant's rank to go to France, transferring to the 1st Battalion. He had been offered a staff appointment at Shorncliffe, (that of Staff-Captain and Instructor of Musketry), but declined the "bomb-proof job". He fought in the Battle of the Somme in 1916, and at Vimy Ridge and Fresnoy in the spring of 1917. He was recommended for the M. C., and this or a higher decoration was surely his due. He was wounded at Vimy, but did not wait for his wound to heal before he returned to duty. At Fresnoy he was again wounded, this time very seriously, and died six weeks later, June 16, 1917, in the Duchess of Westminster's Hospital at Le Touquet. He was buried at Etaples, France.

During his last year at P. C. I. George was Captain of the Rugby team, President of the Literary Society, and Captain of the Cadet Corps - a singular tribute to his versatility and to the love and esteem in which he was held.